

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A coating for a utensil or vessel for cooking food products, ~~characterized in that it consists of~~ comprising an aluminum-based alloy containing more than 80% by weight of one or more quasicrystalline or approximant phases, having the composition $Al_a(Fe_{1-x}X_x)_b(Cr_{1-y}Y_y)_cZ_zJ_j$ in which:

- X represents one or more elements isoelectronic with Fe, chosen from Ru and Os;
- Y represents one or more elements isoelectronic with Cr, chosen from Mo and W;
- Z is an element selected from the group consisting of ~~or a mixture of elements chosen from~~ Ti, Zr, Hf, V, Nb, Ta, Mn, Re, Rh, Ni, and Pd and mixtures thereof;
- J represents the inevitable impurities other than copper;
- $a + b + c + z = 100$;
- $5 \leq b \leq 15$; $10 \leq c \leq 29$; $0 \leq z \leq 10$;
- $xb \leq 2$;
- $yc \leq 2$; and
- $j < 1$.

2. (Currently Amended) The coating as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the quasicrystalline alloy has an atomic composition $Al_aFe_bCr_cJ_j$, in which:

- $a + b + c + j = 100$; and
- $5 \leq b \leq 15$; $10 \leq c \leq 29$; $j < 1$.

3. (Currently Amended) A utensil or vessel for cooking food products, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the surface of said utensil or vessel that is in contact with the food products has a coating as claimed in ~~either of claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1.

4. (New) A utensil or vessel for cooking food products, wherein the surface of said utensil or vessel that is in contact with the food products has a coating as claimed in claim 2.